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481—10.16(10A,17A) Prehearing conference.

10.16(1) Set by division. The division may commence a contested case proceeding by issuing a notice of hearing that sets a prehearing conference to provide parties an opportunity to be heard on the selection of a date and time for the hearing on the merits and any other matters set forth in the notice or raised by the parties.

10.16(2) Requested by party. Any party may request a prehearing conference by filing and serving a written motion at least ten days prior to the date of the hearing. The motion must state any matters that the party seeks to address at the prehearing conference. If the administrative law judge grants the motion, the administrative law judge shall issue an order providing notice of the date and time of the prehearing conference to all parties.

10.16(3) Ordered by administrative law judge. The administrative law judge may order a prehearing conference if the administrative law judge determines on the administrative law judge's own motion that a prehearing conference should be held.

10.16(4) *Default.* If a party fails to appear or participate in a prehearing conference after proper service of notice, the administrative law judge may enter a default decision or proceed with the prehearing conference in the absence of the party.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 10A.801(7) and 17A.12. [ARC 3523C, IAB 12/20/17, effective 1/24/18]